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Message Text

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42
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W
---------- 125952
P 221528Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2715

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 08181

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, PGOV, GW, FR, UK, US, WB
SUBJECT: BONN GROUP CONSULTATIONS PAPER

REF: (A) STATE 85357; (B) BONN 6174; (C) BONN 4995;
(D) STATE 32423

SUMMARY: AT MAY 21 BONN GROUP MEETING AD REF AGREEMENT REACHED ON DRAFT CONSULTATIONS PAPER FOR RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORITIES. WHEREAS FRG, FRENCH, AND U.S. REPS FAVORED HAVING FINAL OKAY TO CONSULTATIONS PAPER BEING GIVEN BY FOUR FOREIGN MINISTERS DURING QUAD DINNER IN OTTAWA, UK REP SAID LONDON'S VIEW AT PRESENT WAS TO SEE FINAL PAPER ONLY AS "AGREED MINUTE" OF BONN GROUP. FRG REP THEN TOOK POSITION THAT HE COULD NOT FINISH ADDITIONAL PAPER UNTIL HE KNEW WHAT STATUS FINISHED CONSULTATIONS PAPER WOULD HAVE. END SUMMARY.

1. DRAFT APPROVED AD REF AT MAY 21 BONN GROUP MEETING IS ESSENTIALLY A FRENCH COUNTER-DRAFT TO US-FRG DRAFT TRANSMITTED REFTEL B (AS IMPROVED ALONG LINES INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL A). FRENCH HAVE TAKEN POSITION THAT TALKING POINTS PREVIOUSLY AGREED FOR USE BY FOREIGN MINISTER IN POSSIBLE TALKS WITH GROMYKO IN NEW YORK (BONN 5717) HAVE CHANGED NATURE OF WHAT IS REQUIRED IN CONSULTATIONS PAPER, PARTICULARLY, IF LATTER COULD BE APPROVED DURING QUAD DINNER IN OTTAWA. UK REP, ON OTHER HAND, WHILE
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AGREEING WITH FIRST PART OF FRENCH VIEW, HAS TAKEN

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POSITION (UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON) THAT SUCH HIGH-LEVEL CONSIDERATION OF CONSULTATIONS PAPER WOULD ONLY EMPHASIZE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN FAILINGS IN CONSULTATIONS UP TO NOW, AND THAT PAPER SHOULD ONLY BE SEEN AS SET OF "PRACTICAL PRECEPTS" WHICH REQUIRE APPROVAL ONLY AS BONN GROUP "AGREED MINUTE".

2. FRG REP (LUECKING) SAID HE HAD DONE CONSIDERABLE WORK AND THAT HIGH LEVELS OF FONOFF WERE "USED TO IDEA" THAT PAPER WOULD BE "BLESSED" IN OTTAWA, WHICH WAS SEEN BY BONN AS ONLY NATURAL SINCE THE QUAD DINNER WAS THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF CONSULTATIONS WHICH THE FOUR CARRY ON. LEVEL OF APPROVAL WOULD, HE CONTINUED, HAVE A FUNDAMENTAL EFFECT ON HOW IT COULD BE HANDLED WITHIN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND HE COULD NOT PROCEED WITH FRG COVER LETTER (WHICH "ADDITIONAL PAPER" HAS EVOLVED INTO) UNTIL THE QUESTION OF LEVEL OF APPROVAL WAS RESOLVED. U.S. REP TOOK POSITION THAT WE HAD WELCOMED FRG IDEA FOR ADDITIONAL, EXPLANATORY PAPER FOR USE WITHIN FRG, AND THAT CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF FONMINS DURING QUAD DINNER HAD DISTINCT ADVANTAGES WHICH WE WOULD NOT LIKE TO FOREGO.

3. FOLLOWING IS AD REF AGREED DRAFT. BEGIN TEXT:

IN VIEW OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE THREE POWERS AND OF THE FRG FOR BERLIN, CONTINUING CONSULTATIONS ON MATTERS AFFECTING BERLIN TAKE PLACE BETWEEN THE FOUR GOVERNMENTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE BONN GROUP. THERE IS AGREEMENT THAT THESE CONSULTATIONS ARE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

(1) THE BONN GROUP IS INFORMED AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE OF PROPOSED MEASURES OR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO BERLIN, IN PARTICULAR OF EVERY PLAN CONCERNING FEDERAL ACTIVITIES IN BERLIN (WEST);

(2) THE CONSULTATIONS PROCEED WITHOUT DELAY;

(3) THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE CONSULTATIONS IS
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PROTECTED, IN PARTICULAR BY ABSTENTION ON THE PART OF THE FOUR GOVERNMENTS FROM MAKING PUBLIC STATEMENTS AS LONG AS CONSULTATIONS ARE STILL IN PROGRESS.

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 (ISO) W
---------- 003203
P 221528Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2716

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(THE MEASURES TAKEN TO MAINTAIN THESE PRINCIPLES ARE NOTED.) END TEXT.

NOTE: FRG REP EXPRESSED VIEW THAT BRACKETED (LAST) SENTENCE MADE SENSE ONLY IF PAPER WERE TAKEN UP AT QUAD DINNER.

4. IN LATER BILATERAL WITH LUECKING (INITIATED BY HIM), HE SAID HE WAS AT ABSOLUTE LOSS TO UNDERSTAND THE UK POSITION AND IF IT PREVAILED THE WHOLE CONSULTATIONS PAPER EXERCISE WOULD BE PUT INTO QUESTION. LUECKING SAID HE HAD FINISHED THE FRG COVER LETTER BUT HE WAS NOT ABOUT TO DISCUSS IT IN BONN GROUP UNITL MATTER OF STATUS OF PAPER WAS RESOLVED. IF PAPER WAS ONLY "APPROVED MINUTE", HE INDICATED, ITS USEFULNESS WITHIN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD ALL BUT DISAPPEAR SINCE IT COULD THEN NOT BE PUT BEFORE CABINET - EVEN AS INFORMATION ITEM. LUECKING SAID HE HAD ALREADY BRIEFED NEW FONMIN GENSCHER THAT CONSULTATIONS PAPER WOULD PROBABLY BE AGENDA ITEM FOR QUAD DINNER.

5. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: WE HOPE THAT DEPART-MENT CAN AGREE, EVEN IF PROVISIONALLY PENDING RESOLUTION OF FRG COVER LETTER MATTER, ON TEXT SO THAT WE CAN MOVE ON TO TACKLE PROBLEM OF LEVEL OF APPROVAL, WHICH WE THINK WOULD LEAD RELATIVELY EARLY TO SOLUTION OF FRG COVER LETTER QUESTION. WE SEE DEFINITE ADVANTAGE IN

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FINAL OKAY GIVEN AT QUAD DINNER, AND WE REQUEST
DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION TO PRESS THIS AS FORMAL U.S.
POSITION. WE WOULD EXPECT THAT, IF FRENCH AND FRG STAND
FIRM ON SAME POSITION, WE COULD BRING THE BRITISH AROUND.
HILLENBRAND

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